

opc Bulletin

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NY, NY • SEPTEMBER 1995

Club Elects 4 New Board Members

Three new board members and one new alternate have been elected to the OPC's Board of Governors. Results of the 1995 election were announced at the club's annual meeting Aug. 22.

Joining the 25-member board this fall are **Edward Klein**, contributing editor to *Vanity Fair* and *Parade*; **Linda Fasulo**, United Nations bureau chief of NBC News; and **Roy Rowan**, an author and journalist. **Stanley Reed**, international affairs editor at *Business Week*, was elected one of three alternates. All seats are for two years.



Edward Klein



Linda Fasulo

Before joining *Vanity Fair* in 1989, Klein was editor in chief of *The New York Times Magazine* for 11 years, from 1977 to 1988. During that time, the publication won a number of awards for its graphic and editorial excellence, including the first Pulitzer Prize in its

history. Earlier, Klein worked his way up at *Newsweek*, becoming foreign editor and later an assistant managing editor.

Fasulo is the U.N. producer for NBC News and a special correspondent for *U.S. News & World Report*. Since 1990 her news reports have been broadcast on National Public Radio. The author of *Representing America: Experiences of U.S. Diplomats at the UN*, she is writing a new book about the United Nations since the end of the Cold War.

Rowan is a veteran foreign correspondent. He spent more than 35 years with Time Inc., first as *Life* bureau chief in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Rome,



Roy Rowan

Tokyo, Bonn and Chicago, then for eight years as the assistant managing editor of the magazine. The author of *The Four Days of Mayaguez*, about the capture of an American cargo ship by Cambodia, and *The Intuitive Manager*, he is a former board member and past vice president.

Reed is a Middle East specialist. He was based in Cairo from 1976-80, and has written on the region for *Foreign Affairs*, *The New York Times* and *The Nation* as well as *Business Week*. Before joining *BW* in 1989, he was a Knight-Bagehot fellow in economic journalism at Columbia University.



Stanley Reed

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Summer Surprise: OPC Enjoys Surge in Top-Notch Applicants

It's boom time at the OPC.

For the first time in many years, the club is enjoying a surge in applications.

In the past month, the OPC has admitted 14 new members, twice as many as in June and July combined. Of the 37 members to join this year, well over half applied during the summer months—a traditionally slow period.

"People are seeing movement in the club in a way they haven't in a long time," explained OPC President Bill Holstein. "They sense growth, excitement and very strong professionalism. Their decision to join really ratifies some of the progress we're making."

The latest crop of members features a number of influential journalists and news executives. Among them: **Peter M. Sturtevant Jr.**, senior vice president at NBC in New York; **James Fallows**,

Washington editor of the Boston-based *Atlantic Monthly*; **C. Michael Curtis**, senior editor at the *Atlantic*; and **William Sposato**, Reuters' New York bureau chief.

Overseas, new members include **Eric Weiner**, South Asia correspondent for National Public Radio in New Delhi; **Takao Toshikawa**, editor-in-chief of Tokyo *Insideline*; and globetrotting freelancer **Thomas Goltz**.

Public relations officers and other business professionals have also shown growing interest. They include **Brian M. McGlynn**, director of corporate media relations for Pfizer Inc.; **Paolo Vannini**, Fiat USA's vice president for corporate communications; **Sandy Gardiner**, British Airways' senior vice president for PR in the Americas; and

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President's Corner: Barbarians at the Gate?

This hasn't been a good summer for people who consider themselves serious news professionals. The summary goes like this:

—A former cereal executive, now in charge of Times Mirror, shuts down *New York Newsday* because it didn't offer "an appropriate rate of return." Other major cuts are in store at *The Los Angeles Times*.

—Disney purchases control of ABC, including ABC News, from Capital Cities. That places the news division in a setting that is even more dominated by entertainment and even less sensitive to the need for international news-gathering. Mickey Mouse as news anchor.

—CBS is on the verge of being taken over by Westinghouse. The new owners could conceivably be more enlightened than Larry Tisch. But the more probable outcome is that Westinghouse will overpay and have to strip more costs out of the embattled news division.

—Detroit's two newspapers are consumed by a bitter labor strike and there are fears that only one will survive. Gannett, owner of the *Detroit News*, and Knight-Ridder, owner of the *Detroit Free Press*, have operated the two newspapers together as part of a joint-operating agreement since 1989.

It would be easy, and a bit obvious, to express outrage about all these developments. One can imagine what H.L.

Mencken or A.J. Liebling, those famous press critics, would be saying: Journalism is finished. Journalists lost their voice inside their own institutions. The bean counters won. I can also hear the voices of the old-timers at United Press International saying, "Well, it's time to go on to something honest. Like dry cleaning."

Those arguments have some emotional appeal, but they lead to a dead-end. Anyone who is a serious journalist has to fall on his or her sword. Barbarians are storming the castle. The end is nigh.

But to understand what's going on, and figure out how to respond, I would argue we have to consider three painful truths:

—1. News organizations have to make a profit, just as all companies do. We can argue over what is an appropriate rate of return, but it's just not rational to lose \$100 million as Times Mirror did with *New York Newsday*. Either the business plan was flawed from the beginning, or the editorial content was out of sync with hard-bitten New York tastes. Times Mirror fixed



Bill Holstein

the problem in the most brutal, insensitive way possible, but clearly something had to give.

—2. It's wrong to believe that news judgment can remain unchanged forever. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, which was the threat that galvanized Americans to care about what was happening in the world, we the gatekeepers have had to adjust our sense of how to give readers, viewers and listeners what they need to know. I think Americans want more about how to improve their lives economically and how to cope in a rapidly changing world. The old model of telling our customers that a certain violent and despicable event in a faraway place is important simply because we say it's important doesn't work.

—3. Not every journalistic organization is going to survive. There is a structural change taking place in the news business. Newspapers are losing money because too many of them have completely failed to deliver a product that their readers *have* to read. They've gone soft and fuzzy, in color. In many major American cities, I'm flabbergasted at how bad, how irrelevant, how out-of-touch newspapers are. Similarly, the network news has lost ground economically because it has lost credibility and believability. Why bother to turn it on? Let's flip the channel to CNN for world news, to CNBC for financial news, to the Weather Channel to see if it's going to rain, to ESPN for sports, and so forth. We can get exactly what we want when we want it.

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OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA • OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 1995-1996

OPC Bulletin
ISSN-0738-7202
Monthly except August.
\$24/year included in
dues. Copyright © 1995
Overseas Press Club of
America.

EDITOR
David S. Fondiller

CLUB MANAGER
Sonya K. Fry

Address: OPC,
320 East 42nd St.,
Mezzanine, New
York, N.Y. 10017
U.S.A.

Phone:
(212) 983-4655

Fax:
(212) 983-4692

PRESIDENT
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of Business

Barbarians at the Gate

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If some dinosaurs die, new species will emerge. Consider what's happening in the world of online news systems. America Online, Prodigy, and CompuServe are reaching millions of Americans and now Microsoft and AT&T are pouring in. For example, Microsoft and AT&T are creating their own news staffs to provide the information they think their customers want. Meanwhile, Reuters, Bloomberg, BBC, Dow Jones, CNBC, Turner/CNN, and others are gearing up worldwide television news capabilities.

My point is that content is still king. To survive, and maybe even prosper, journalists have to be a bit more savvy about what is economically rational, have to keep striving to adjust the editorial message to what the marketplace demands, and have to be willing to shift institutional horses. My heart is absolutely with my colleagues at the big newspapers, the networks, and elsewhere whose careers and livelihoods are on the line. But rather than waiting for the next cereal executive to wield the axe, we have to keep changing and improving.

Finally, I would argue that we need to do a better job of explaining why we are important. Journalists are so fractious, so curiously inarticulate in defending their interests. The Overseas Press Club can serve as a rallying point for intelligent debate.

I personally would discourage the raw emotional knee-jerkism which holds that all media executives are hatchet men and all technologists are nerds. There has to be a balance in any successful news organization among the business imperative, the means of delivery, and the editorial content. The organizations that fail to get the right mix are headed down the slippery slope.

What we as internationally minded journalists have to do is make our news and analysis more compelling, more relevant than ever. The higher the quality, the more successful our organizations are going to be. Yes, quality is expensive. It requires talented, experienced, traveled people. Moreover, integrity and credibility are still hugely important, maybe more important than ever, in an era of so many choices. Rather than bemoaning the collapse of journalism, we must seize the opportunity that change presents.

IHT Gives Up in Singapore Despite Support from OPC

Ignoring appeals from both the Overseas Press Club and the Committee to Protect Journalists, the *International Herald Tribune* has decided not to fight a Singapore court decision ordering the paper to pay libel damages of \$678,000.

The *IHT*, a Paris-based joint venture between the *Washington Post* and *New York Times*, thus helped set the stage for continued intimidation of Western news organizations in Singapore. *Time* magazine and *The Asian Wall Street Journal* also have run afoul of the government's hypersensitivities.

The *IHT* article in question was an opinion piece on Aug. 2, 1994 suggesting that "dynastic politics" exist in Singapore, which was been dominated by its former Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, since the country's birth 30 years ago. Even though the current Prime Minister is Goh Chok Tong, it is widely reckoned that Lee is grooming his own son, Lee Hsien Loong, to one day take over.

In early August, the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee urged Singapore to drop the legal action against the *IHT*. "It is one thing to make strong representations to Western editors and journalists to be fair-handed in what they write about Singapore," said the OPC's letter to Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. "But imposing financially significant fines

that could affect the commercial health of one of the finest international newspapers seems to represent outright harassment."

The *IHT*'s decision to settle appeared to stem from its commercial presence in Singapore. It prints about 17,000 of its total circulation of 190,000 in Singapore, and distributes 7,000 newspapers throughout the republic. It also carries advertising from large businesses with government ties.

One thing is certain: The decision of two of America's most powerful media companies to submit to Singapore's heavy-handed authorities will help foster a climate in which even fewer journalists risk writing about the island-nation's politics, and more media organizations place commercial interests above their pursuit of the news.

Responding to the OPC's letter, the Singaporean Ministry of Information and the Arts said that the court's assessment of damages took into account "the high standing of the plaintiffs, the gravity of the allegations and the fact the libel had been published in a reputable newspaper...."

"Singapore has no wish to do battle with the Western and especially American media," the Ministry said. "However, when it is attacked by a foreign newspaper, it must defend itself."

OPC Committee Fights Attacks

The OPC and 16 other leading international press organizations issued a declaration in June calling on factions in Algeria to stop attacks on journalists and restore press freedoms.

To date, attacks by the Armed Islamic Group and others have claimed the lives of more than 40 journalists, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, which organized the action.

The declaration coincided with the second anniversary of the murder of Tahar Djaout, the first journalist to be assassinated in Algeria's campaign of terror against reporters.

In other news, an OPC appeal to Georgian President Edward Shevardnadze was credited with having playing "an important part" in the

resumed operation of television station Rustavi-2, the largest independent TV station in Georgia.

In a message to Shevardnadze, the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee charged that the shutdown of the TV station in June was "a move designed only to thwart the development and operation of free news media" in Georgia, one of the Newly Independent States.

The club's action was prompted by OPC Vice President John Corporon, who is senior VP-news at WPIX-TV in New York, and Paul Greenberg of Internews, the U.S.-based organization providing training and programming assistance to independent media in the former Soviet republics.

What's New at Other Clubs?

Here's a roundup of four press clubs with which the OPC has, or soon expects to have, reciprocal privileges. If you're working in these cities, be sure to stop by. And don't forget your OPC membership card.

LONDON

By Sonya K. Fry
Club Manager

In July, I found myself trudging around a very hot London in search of press clubs. The first I encountered was the Foreign Press Association near St. James Park. Catherine Flury of the FPA and I had an informal and friendly meeting of the minds over morning coffee. She showed me around the association's quarters—a beautiful townhouse that once belonged to William Gladstone, Prime Minister under Queen Victoria. Although the building was donated by the government, it is not affordable or suitable to the club's needs. Catherine must rent out the elegant dining room for additional income. The club also features a library, a nice reception space and government briefings for members.

Next stop: the London Press Club. Johnnie Johnson, its director, went out of his way to meet me at the LPC's headquarters called The Wig and Pen, one of the few Tudor-style buildings to survive the Great Fire of 1666. Unfortunately, the newspaper business has been moving to the Canary Wharf area and Docklands, so the location is no longer adequate. The club plans to move soon and will keep the OPC informed of its new address and facilities. It hopes to maintain a presence in central London, but that location is to be determined.

The London Press Club has several things going for it: the location is ideal, across from the law courts; the facility is historic; and the bar is perfect. But the size of the rooms does not suit present needs, and support from Fleet Street is no longer viable. The meeting rooms are tiny, albeit adorned with wonderful photographs.

As with many press clubs around the world, both the LPC and FPA face the same set of problems—declining membership, decreasing budgets and members who have less time for socializing at club-sponsored events.

PARIS

By Jacqueline Albert-Simon
Board Member

Founded in 1986, the Press Club de Paris is located at 11 Avenue d'Iena in an impressive three-story, 19th-century building. It is equipped with several conference rooms, a library with numerous publications (mostly in French), and fine communications facilities. A restaurant overlooking the courtyard garden is open from breakfast through late-day drinks. Members with a press card get a 30% discount.

Conference rooms are available at lofty prices for institutional and organization members (and discounted 50% for the press) during the day and evening. From time to time, the Club also organizes trips and cruises.

Although the club is quite grand, membership among journalists remains low. Support comes mostly from corporations and organizations that pay high membership fees. In exchange, they gain use of information resources, access and an atmosphere that, in the words of the club's elegant brochure, is designed to "promote the circulation of ideas and information in open spirit to be found only at the Club."

SAN FRANCISCO

By Bill Holstein
Club President

The Press Club of San Francisco boasts a fabulous facility in downtown San Francisco, just a couple of blocks from Union Square at 555 Post Street. Its dining and bar facilities, with high ceilings and dark wood paneling, are distinctively San Franciscan. For recreation, there's a swimming pool and other athletic facilities, as well as pool tables.

Trouble is, the press community in San Francisco has shrunk dramatically over the years, as it has just about everywhere. Of the club's 400 members, only about 50 are journalists. The *San Francisco Chronicle* and *San Francisco Examiner*, the two big newspapers in town, don't lend as much support as might be expected. The president is Andrew O'Hehir, formerly editor of *SF Weekly* and now a freelance journalist.

But the real driving force appears to be a professional manager, Izzie Brownlie, and her assistant Deidra Herbert. Izzie, a fiery blunt-spoken woman befit-

ting her Scots ancestry, gave me a rapid-fire tour the day I dropped in. The club's biggest room is the Tapestry Room, so named for the huge 15th-century Flemish tapestry hanging on the wall. This room has a stage and microphones, plus a fabulous old bar. To survive financially, the club has organized banquets, seminars, and luncheons for non-press events. But still it lost money last year.

So Izzie is eager to solidify a relationship with the OPC and we'll firm that up. The Press Club would be particularly valuable for OPC corporate members who want to organize events in San Francisco. All OPCers would benefit from lunch or drinks there, and an added plus is that the Press Club has a reciprocal relationship with the Golden Gate Yacht Club down on the water.

SEOUL

The Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club has elected new officers, but continues to suffer from a combination of high costs and a declining press corps.

The new president is B.J. Lee, a Korean who spent two years at Fresno State in California. He has been a stringer for *Newsweek*, but now has joined Bloomberg.

The club's quarters are located in the Press Center Building in central Seoul, within easy walking distance of the Chosun Hotel, where I stayed. But even though it has 800 members, including 150 journalists, its bar, restaurant, and pool-playing areas were deserted on the weekday night I visited. Which is a shame because the club is the best place in town for decently sized and decently priced drinks. In the Chosun, Seoul Hilton, Grand Hyatt and other hangouts for foreigners, an anemic two-fingers of scotch costs an outrageous \$7. Seoul has now become the world's second most expensive city, after Tokyo.

With 25 employees and an annual budget of about \$1 million, the Seoul FCC has a huge infrastructure—but members aren't supporting it as enthusiastically as they could. One reason is that many major Western news organizations rely on local hires in Seoul (who typically don't have as much disposable income) or fly in big-foots from Tokyo, who are only in town temporarily.

Korea is an important story which the Seoul FCC can help outsiders to understand better. Look for the establishment of reciprocal relations with the OPC.

—B.H.

Russian-American Center Nurtures Free Press

By Renny Hart

MOSCOW—For starters, it's not easy to find.

The first thing new staff members at the Russian-American Press and Information Center learn is how to give directions. Tucked away on a "pereulok" or lane near Moscow's Pushkin Square, this historic yellow-and-white mansion was part of the estate of Prince Volkonsky. Built in 1731, it is one of the few buildings that survived the great Moscow fire of 1812.

Today, the building is near Old Arbat Street, a bustling pedestrian arcade of shops and restaurants frequented by tourists. But it's not tourists who visit the Center. Journalists from all of Russia's 11 time zones as well as press representatives from the other Newly Independent States come for the resources the Center provides and the newsmakers it attracts.

The Center was established in May 1992 by New York University's Center for War, Peace and the News Media and the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute for the Study of the USA and Canada. It is run by two directors, American Peter Klebnikov and Russian Vladimir Nikolaevich Orlov. Its mission: To nurture the development of a free and viable independent press in Russia, as the country struggles to create its own democratic and free market institutions.

To that end, the Center has set up a library that rivals that of most major news organizations in the United States. Its on-line and CD-Rom computer databases allow journalists access to such services as Lexis/Nexis and the Russian-language Postfactum, among others. Computer librarian Evgenia Voronina and her small staff do topic searches for reporters as well as train journalists in the electronic resources.

The rest of the library offers hundreds English and Russian-language books, periodicals, magazines, and local and international newspapers.

Most of the time, however, journalists make their way to the Center in search of newsmakers. The large second-floor conference room is packed several times a day as reporters crowd in to hear headliners in every area of Russian life—government and politics, business, culture and so on.



Journalists cover a briefing at the Russian-American Press and Information Center's satellite office in Novosibirsk. Every year the Center holds almost 400 briefings.

When Hungarian-born philanthropist George Soros came to Moscow a couple months ago to announce a restructuring of his foundation's aid program, his representative contacted the Center's program coordinator Natalia Yakovleva. Working the phones and fax machines, she was able to fill the conference room within a few hours.

In an effort to reach across Russia, the Center has set up three satellite offices in the country's next three largest cities, St. Petersburg on the Baltic, Nizhny Novgorod (known as Gorky in the Soviet era) and Novosibirsk in western Siberia. The regional offices provide many of the same services as in Moscow and offer bases of operation for many of the Center's regional activities.

These activities are an area where the Center can make its biggest difference. Newspapers outside of Moscow get far less support than the capital's papers because they have far fewer advertisers and more conservative traditions. They must grapple with state monopolies for printing and distribution while trying to survive without state subsidies that sustained them during the Soviet era.

Through regional offices, Center staff and visiting newspaper professionals offer programs on newspaper management, newsroom organization, advertising and marketing, desktop

publishing, distribution, and newspaper design to editors who are eager for help and advice. Such groups as the Knight Fellows, Freedom Forum and the International Media Fund regularly turn to the Center to coordinate seminars and workshops.

As Russia establishes the institutions of a free press, the Center is monitoring and chronicling that development with its own research. Andrei Richter, a journalism professor at Moscow State University, has used polling and other techniques to analyze how Russian print and electronic media covered the December 1993 parliamentary elections. This spring he and his team evaluated coverage of the conflict in Chechnya. Despite a virtual embargo on information from "official" sources, many Russian media organizations outstripped their western counterparts in reporting details of the fighting, Richter found.

The Center receives funding from a variety of sources: the W. Alton Jones Foundation, Carnegie Corp. of New York, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Freedom Forum, USAID, USIA, the Eurasia Foundation and the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation.

Renny Hart is international coordinator of the Russian-American Press and Information Center.

PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

BEVERLY HILLS: OPC member **Barney Oldfield** reports that his 1929 Remington portable typewriter and paratrooper boots from World War II are displayed along with other war memorabilia aboard the Union Pacific's mobile museum that started traveling along the railroad's



Col. Barney Oldfield routes on Aug. 31. Before the Normandy landing, paratrooper Oldfield set out to convince war correspondents that they could protect their typewriters while jumping on D-Day with airborne troops. To demonstrate, he designed a sponge rubber bag for his portable and parachuted from an airplane with his typewriter packed below his reserve chute. Impressed were **Robert Reuben**, Reuters and NBC; **William Walton**, *Time*; and **Joe Evans**, *Newsweek*. **Edward R. Murrow** borrowed Oldfield's typewriter to write his first broadcast from the Korean War in 1950. For several years, the typewriter was displayed in the old OPC building and later in the College of Journalism at the University of Nebraska.

DACCA, BANGLADESH: **Leon Daniel**, who covered the Vietnam War for UPI and also reported from Tokyo, New Delhi, Hong Kong, London and Washington, returned to Asia this spring to help launch a new newspaper in Bangladesh, *The Independent*. During three months in Dacca, Daniel helped train reporters, and he continues to write a weekly column for the paper from his base in Washington. One of several English-language newspapers published in Dacca, *The Independent* is owned by a local export-import conglomerate.

HO CHI MINH CITY: Twenty years after the Vietnam War ended and Saigon was renamed Ho Chi Minh City, correspondents and photographers now based around the world returned to Saigon for an April reunion. They

found a Vietnamese family living in the old AP bureau and a restaurant operating at the former UPI bureau. Returning correspondents included **Edith Lederer**, **Richard Pyle**, **Horst Faas**, **Carl Robinson**, **Denis Gray**, **Peter O'Loughlin**, **Barry Kramer**, **Steve Stibbens**, **Jim Caccavo**, **Hugh Van Es**, **Christine Spengler**, **Al Rockoff**, **Terry Anderson**, **Jurate Kazickas**, **Ray Cranbourne**, **Bob Davis**, **Peter Arnett**, **Bernard Kalb**, **Tony Clifton**, **Tony Paul**, **Donald Wise**, **Jim Pringle**, **Dave Jansen**, **Tim Page**, **Bill Tuohy**, **Frank Palmos**, **Hilary Brown**, **Dave Jackson**, **Peter Everett** and **Dave Garcia**.

HONG KONG: *The Washington Post* moved its Southeast Asia bureau from Manila to Hong Kong this spring. **Keith Richburg**, the *Post*'s Manila correspondent from 1986 to 1990 and Africa bureau chief from 1991 to 1994, now is in charge of coverage from Hong Kong.

◆ **Leonard Downie Jr.**, *Washington Post* executive editor and a former London correspondent, and **Eugene Robinson**, *Post* foreign editor, visited Hong Kong for the bureau opening. In an interview with *The South China Morning Post*, Downie explained the bureau move: "We felt that our coverage had been overly Philippines dominated and the crisis there had ended. We needed to be able to focus more on Southeast Asia, and Hong Kong has excellent communications and transport, in addition to the big story in '97 [when Hong Kong passes from British to Chinese rule]." Among guests at a *Post* reception was Hong Kong Gov. **Chris Patten**, whom Downie knew from his days in London covering the British government.

◆ *Business Week* has hired **Mark Clifford**, business editor for the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, as a correspondent in Hong Kong. His arrival increases the bureau size to three.

◆ *AsiaWeek*'s assistant managing editor, **Berton Woodward**, has left the

magazine, concluding a 16-year stint with the Time Inc.-owned publication. He is returning to his native Canada.

◆ Just before the Hong Kong Hilton Hotel closed this spring prior to razing, the **Richard Hughes Room**—dedicated to the late doyen of the foreign press corps in Asia—was moved from the hotel to Hong Kong's Foreign Correspondents Club. The room features photos and other mementos of Hughes, an Australian journalist who from 1940 until his death in 1984 covered World War II and Asia for several newspapers including the *London Times* and *Sunday Times*. Writing in the club's monthly magazine, **Tony Paul**, managing editor of *Asia, Inc.*, and a former *Reader's Digest* correspondent in Asia, commented: "Richard was more of a phenomenon than simply a journalist—a self-caricaturing raconteur whose outrageous personality and lifestyle may still be savored in novels by **Ian Fleming** and **John Le Carre**, two close friends."

◆ The Foreign Correspondents Club of Hong Kong has elected **Hans Vriens** as president, **Nurry Vittachi** and **John Giannini** as first vice presidents, and **Stuart Wolfendale** and **Ronald Ling** as second vice presidents.

HOUSTON: **Peter Arnett** of CNN received two awards from the Vietnam Veterans of America on Aug. 19: the 1995 President's Award for his "literary and journalistic contributions to American culture" and the Broadcast News and Print Reporting Award for his "excellent work reporting on the 20th anniversary of the end of the war in Vietnam."

JERUSALEM: OPCer **Nicolas B. Tatro**, AP's Jerusalem bureau chief, was elected chairman of the Foreign Press Association in Israel at the group's annual meeting this spring. Others elected: vice chairman **Coenrad Mus**, RTL4; treasurer **Daniel Blumenthal**, *Ambito Financiero*; secretary **Howard Goller**, Reuters; and board members **Tami Allen Frost**, ITN; **Mark Lavie**, NBC Radio; **Sven Nackstrand**, *AFP*; **Christopher Walker**, *London Times*; and **Simonetta Della-Seta**, RTI Italy. Established in 1957, the association represents more

than 220 foreign journalists based in Israel.

JOHANNESBURG: *The New York Times* has dispatched a husband-wife team from New York to Joburg, replacing **Bill Keller**, who has become foreign editor. **Suzanne Daly**, from the Metro Desk, and **Donald McNeil**, a theater critic, have arrived in the South African capital.

LONDON: ABC announced on Aug. 9 the appointment of **Rex Granum** as London bureau chief and director of news coverage for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He succeeds **Ned Warwick**, London chief since 1989. Granum, who joined ABC 14 years ago, spent most of the past nine years in Atlanta.

CBS announced in August that **Barry Petersen**, who had been in the London bureau since 1991, will move back to Tokyo, where he was based from 1986 to 1988. **James Hattori**, who had been in Tokyo since 1992, moves to New York; and **Vicki Mabrey** moves from Dallas to London.

Hilary Bowker, a CNN London anchor, will join two Washington anchors in a new CNN evening newscast covering international news and titled "Worldview." Reporting from Washington will be **Bernard Shaw** and **Judy Woodruff**. CNN said the new program will start the day after the **O. J. Simpson** murder trial goes to the jury.

MEXICO CITY: **Sam Dillon**, an OPC award winner, has been transferred to Mexico City for *The New York Times*, replacing **Tim Golden**, who has taken a Niemen fellowship at Harvard. He is joined by his wife **Julia Preston**. The *Times*' Latin correspondent, **James Brooke**, has meanwhile been sent to Denver.

MIAMI: OPC member **Juan Tamayo** has resigned as foreign editor of *The Miami Herald* to return to the field as correspondent for Latin America. His successor is **Maria Garcia**.



Juan Tamayo

MOSCOW: *Washington Post* bureau chief **Fred Hiatt** and wife **Margaret Shapiro**, a *Post* correspondent, have left Moscow after nearly a four-year tour and returned to Washington. Moscow sources expect **Lee Hockstader** to become bureau chief. *Post* correspondent **David Hoffman**, from Jerusalem, has taken the No. 2 position.

NEW YORK: **Michael Elliott**, Washington-based diplomatic editor of *Newsweek*, will become editor of *Newsweek International* on Jan. 1, 1996, the magazine announced in July. He succeeds **Kenneth Auchincloss**, who will become editor-at-large for *Newsweek's* U.S. edition. Before joining *Newsweek*, British-born Elliott, 44, was a columnist for *The Economist* and also wrote for *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Times* (London), *The New Republic* and *American Enterprise*. Auchincloss, 58, joined *Newsweek* in 1966 as a writer in its international section and earlier was a *Time* stringer while studying at Oxford University. *Newsweek International* publishes three English-language editions for the *Atlantic*, Pacific and Latin American regions, and editions in Japanese and Korean.



Michael Elliott



Kenneth Auchincloss

The Associated Press in July announced several appointments in its foreign staff: **Chris Burns**, promoted in Paris to news editor; **Greg Myre**, transferred from chief of bureau in Islamabad to Nicosia as Middle East news editor; **Jeffrey Ulbrich**, chief of bureau in Toronto appointed European Union correspondent based in Brussels. **David Crary**, Paris news editor, succeeded Ulbrich in Toronto.

Kunihiko Suzuki is the new New York bureau chief of Kyodo News Service, Japan's national news agency, and general manager of Kyodo News International. He transferred from

Tokyo, where he was a general manager in Kyodo's membership department. Suzuki succeeded **Hideaki Sakamoto**, New York bureau chief since 1992 who returned to Tokyo for a new assignment in Kyodo's international department.

Gerry Solomon, who has covered stories in Europe and Asia, joined CNN Business News in July as its New York-based supervising producer. He is responsible for editorial content, production and broadcast of *Business Day* and *Business Asia*.

Don C. Becker, publisher of *The Journal of Commerce* and a former UPI correspondent in Singapore, Manila and San Juan, announced in June the appointment of **Donald D. Holt** as editor of the New York-based newspaper that was sold in April to The Economist Group of London by Knight-Ridder. Holt, 59, has worked as an editor and writer for *Fortune*, *Newsweek* and *The Chicago Daily News*.

Vanity Fair plans to print an excerpt from **Bill Prochnau's** book *The Group* about **Peter Arnett**, **David Halberstam**, **Horst Faas**, **Malcolm Browne** and **Neil Sheehan**—whom the New York *Daily News* on June 22 called "the five most famous Vietnam War correspondents." The magazine suggested that the five newsmen pose at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. But the shoot was moved to Elaine's, a New York City restaurant popular with show people, after Halberstam complained and his colleagues agreed: "Whoever arranged this gathering didn't understand the particular meaning of this memorial. This is a monument to more than 50,000 men and women who didn't make it home. I thought it just seemed wrong. It's not a place that we should pose."

The Associated Press on Aug. 3 announced the names of its correspondents who won AP's 1995 Gramling awards. For her reports on the growing role of Islam in North Africa and Europe, **Elaine Ganley**, Paris, received the \$25,000 Gramling Fellowship. She will study Islam-related issues at the University of Paris and Cambridge University. **Aida Cerkez**, Sarajevo, received the \$10,000 Achievement
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(Continued from Page 7)

Award for her "near-miraculous administrative acumen [that] has kept together AP's news and technical coverage amid the devastation in Bosnia." **Linda Deutsch**, Los Angeles, who is covering the **O. J. Simpson** murder trial, received the \$10,000 Reporter Award. The three awards were established by **Oliver S. Gramling**, the AP newsman and executive who developed AP's first radio wire in 1941.

♦
"A great mystery" is how OPCer **Frederick Lembeck** describes his first book *Beat the House* (New York: Citadel Press), a collection of mathematical gambling systems that win consistently and repeatedly on the kitchen table but not in casinos. Might the casinos be using rigged tables? "It's important never to accuse anyone of dishonesty without proof," Lembeck says, "and also you never know, there may turn out to be a legitimate explanation for it."



Frederick Lembeck

PARIS: OPCer **Roger Cohen** of *The New York Times* has completed his 18-month posting in Zagreb, Croatia, covering the Balkans crisis. He will now concentrate on longer magazine pieces from his base in Paris. **Raymond Bonner** has stepped into the hot seat as Balkans bureau chief.



Roger Cohen

PRAGUE: **Alan Levy**, editor-in-chief of *The Prague Post*, has been named 1995's U.S. author of the year by the American Society of Journalists and Authors, an association of some 900 professional nonfiction writers. He received the award in May for his book *The Wiesenthal File*, published last year (William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.). Levy discussed the book and his adven-

tures as a foreign correspondent at an OPC luncheon last November.

SYDNEY: **Lee Casey**, a former Reuters correspondent in Tokyo and now director general of Australian Associated Press (APP), has been named president of the board of AFX-Asia, a new economic and financial information agency. Principal shareholders are APP, *The Financial Times*, Agence France Presse and Nikkei of Japan.

TOKYO: In an article published this summer, **Max Desfor** recalls the surprise that awaited U.S. Marines when they waded ashore at Yokosuka, Japan, a few days after Japan's World War II surrender. Desfor, then an AP photographer, said Marines swarmed off landing craft with guns ready for action. "No one knew what to expect," Desfor wrote in *No. 1 Shimbun*, monthly paper published by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. "But they were not prepared for what actually happened....For ahead of them was a line of Japanese, bowing them in, welcoming them on their arrival."

VERO BEACH, FLA.: OPCer **Pam Proctor**, a former senior editor at *Parade* magazine, has co-authored a new book, *Love, Miracles, and Animal Healing*, with veterinarian **Allen M. Schoen**. Published by Simon & Schuster, the book is Proctor's fifth work of nonfiction. Her previous collaborations include books with television personalities **Sally Jessy Raphael** and **Willard Scott**.

WASHINGTON: OPC member and longtime Asia hand **Joe Galloway** is doing a series of from-the-hinterland pieces for *U.S. News and World Report*, helping gear up for the 1996 political season. He reports to **John Walcott**, who has moved from the foreign desk to the national desk.

♦
Sam Donaldson, ABC, returned to his regular television schedule on Aug. 20 after surgery for removal of a malignant tumor on a lymph node followed by hospitalization for a blood clot in his lung.

♦
The Los Angeles Times called her "the aged, long-forgotten leader of the

Nationalist Party that once ruled the Chinese mainland." From history's shadows came **Madame Chiang Kai-shek**, 97, who was honored in Washington at a Congressional reception on July 26, and three correspondents who were based in Tokyo years ago were on hand for her rare public appearance. They were **Gene Kramer**, AP; **Sol Sanders**, ex-McGraw-Hill; and **Al Kaff**, ex-UPI. Honorary chairs of the reception were Senators **Robert Dole** and **Paul Simon**, who first met the Chiangs in 1957 when he visited Taipei as a young freelance journalist.

♦
About 500 correspondents who covered American wars from World War II to the present are expected to attend a reunion in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, Oct. 7. Marking the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, the 45th anniversary of the start of the Korean War and the 20th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, the reunion probably will be the largest gathering of war correspondents ever held, said **Peter Arnett** of CNN and **Carmella LaSpada**, founder and CEO of No Greater Love, an organization for remembering war victims. Arnett and LaSpada are chairing the reunion. Events include a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery honoring journalists who died covering armed conflicts, a lunch at Fort Myer, an exhibit of photos made by correspondents who died on both sides in the Vietnam War, and a black tie dinner at Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington followed by a program of songs and stories from correspondents about their lighter moments in World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and America's smaller wars. Broadcaster **Walter Cronkite** is scheduled to be master of ceremonies at the dinner. The photo exhibit will be arranged by **Horst Faas** of AP. Members of the organizing committee, which includes correspondents from the Korean and Vietnam Wars, are **Kevin Delaney**, **Joe Galloway**, **Al Kaff**, **Bob Kaiser**, **George McArthur**, **Ike Pappas**, **Jack Reynolds**, **Al Spivak** and **Dick Swanson**. The committee's New York representative is **Richard Pyle**, AP. War correspondents who have not been notified of the reunion by mail may contact Carmella LaSpada, No Greater Love, 1750 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

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20006. Tel: (202) 783-4665, Fax 202-783-1168.

◆ **David Ensor** of ABC News moved from Moscow to the U.S. State Department as diplomatic correspondent this summer. He had been based in Moscow since 1992. Earlier he was ABC bureau chief in Rome and Warsaw.

◆ In June, **Maggie Simpson**, who formerly worked for ABC News in Tokyo, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) and Japan Cable Television, became director of CNN public relations in Washington. She joined CNN in 1993 and was senior publicist for Larry King Live. A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, Simpson did graduate studies in Far Eastern politics at the Sorbonne in Paris.



Maggie Simpson

◆ **DECEASED: George Seldes**, a foreign correspondent, author and press critic, died in a hospital in Windsor, Vermont, on July 2 at the age of 104. He had a heart ailment. Seldes covered the first World War for United Press. From 1919 to 1928, he was a *Chicago Tribune* correspondent reporting from Germany, Russia, Italy, Mexico, the Middle East and the British Isles. He also covered the Spanish Civil War for the *New York Post*. After returning to the United States, Seldes wrote several books of critical commentaries on the press and edited *In Fact*, a newsletter.

◆ OPC member **Thomas J. Cunningham**, a retired Army colonel who was spokesman for Gen. William C. Westmoreland during the Vietnam War, died of heart ailments in a Fairfax, Virginia, hospital on June 26. He was 76. After retiring from the Army in 1967, Cunningham was European editor of *Stars & Stripes* and editor of *Army Digest*.

◆ **H. Roger Tatarian**, a former UPI news executive in Europe and the

United States, died of heart failure in his Fresno, Calif., home on June 25. He was 78. Tatarian directed the agency's coverage of major events such as the Berlin blockade, the Hungarian revolution, and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He worked for UPI and its predecessor, United Press, for 34 years, beginning in 1938. He was editor in chief when he retired in 1972.

◆ **Claire Sterling**, 75, an American foreign correspondent and author based in Italy for more than 30 years, died of cancer June 17 at a hospital in Arezzo, Italy. Shortly after World War II, she worked in Italy for the now-defunct Overseas News Service. She joined *Reporter* magazine in 1949, writing from New York, sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Asia. After *Reporter* closed in 1968, Sterling wrote for *Harper's* magazine, did freelance writing and wrote books about the connections between the Soviet government and terrorist organizations.

◆ **Allan Jackson**, 80, an INS correspondent during World War II who took an often-republished photograph of American and Soviet troops meeting at the Elbe River in 1945, shot himself to death at his home in Pensacola Beach, Florida, on July 25. He was diagnosed with a form of diabetes that deteriorates muscles and nerves, and he had been in constant pain since a heart attack in October. Jackson survived the Japanese sinking of the American cruiser *Helena* in the South Pacific, and later covered campaigns in North Africa, the Middle East and Europe including the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he worked abroad for the U.S. Information Agency and was editor of *The Pensacola News Journal*.

◆ **George Rodger**, a photojournalist with *Life* magazine during World War II and one of the founders of Magnum photo agency, died at his home in England on July 25. He was 87. As a *Life* war correspondent from 1939 to 1945, Rodger covered Africa, the Middle East, Italy, the Normandy landings, the liberation of Paris and the Allied advance to the Bergen-Belsen POW camp shortly before V-E Day. After helping start Magnum in 1947, he photographed Africa in the 1950s and 1970s.

OPC member **Howard C.E. Johnson**, a chemist who became the editor-in-chief of McGraw-Hill's *Chemical Week* magazine, died of congestive heart failure July 30 in Oceanside, Calif. He was 77. After more than 20 years at the magazine, he became a chemical security analyst for Value Line, retiring in 1985.

Club Elects 4 New Board Members

(Continued from Front Page)

Reelected to Board of Governors were **John MacArthur** of *Harper's* magazine, **Henry Muller** of Time Inc., **Jacqueline Albert-Simon** of *Politique Internationale* and **Andrew Nibley** of Reuters. **Bob Sullivan** of Worldwide Television News and **Michael Serrill** of *Time* magazine return as alternates.

John Polich, a professor of media management at the Fordham Graduate School of Business, ran unopposed to keep his seat as one of three associate board members.

Nearly 150 members cast ballots, according to OPC Manager Sonya Fry.

Applications Surge Over Summer

(Continued from Front Page)

Joseph J. Kim, president of New York-based Peregrine Capital (USA) Inc.,

The OPC would also like to welcome **Edward DeMarco**, a staff writer for the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and **William Hanna**, vice president of Stoddart Publishing in Toronto. In addition, past members **Bill Neugebauer**, founder of PR firm Neugebauer Communications in Los Angeles and New York, and **Frederick Lem**, a New York-based freelancer, have rejoined.

Oops...

Longtime OPCer **Henry Hartzenbusch** was the first to point out a typo in Bill Holstein's article last month about the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. The value of the yen stood at 84 to the dollar, not 34. Hartzenbusch is director-international for the Universal Press Syndicate in Arlington, Va.

Thanks Henry!

Panel Discussion on U.S.-Japan Relations Oct. 3

The OPC and *The Atlantic Monthly* are organizing a panel discussion for Oct. 3 that will examine past and future relations between the United States and Japan.

The forum, tentatively titled "The United States & Japan: The Next Fifty Years," will discuss strategies for improving cultural, economic and political ties between the two countries, as the world prepares to enter the 21st century.

This luncheon/panel discussion will be held on the 50th floor of the McGraw-Hill Building, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, beginning at noon.

Panelists are expected to include James Fallows, Washington editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*; Yoichi Funabashi, Washington bureau chief for *Asahi Shimbun*; and two high-ranking officials from the governments of Japan and the United States. OPC President Bill Holstein, world editor of *Business Week*, will moderate.

Fallows, a new OPC member, joined *The Atlantic* in 1980. Since then he has written on a vast range of subjects, including a series of articles in the late 1980s about the Far East, where he and his family lived for four years. In early 1994 he wrote the book *Looking at the Sun*, about the political and economic implications of East Asia's rise.

Stay tuned for further details in the mail.

Board Approves Plan to Simplify Member Dues and Boost Revenue

At its Aug. 22 meeting, the Board of Governors unanimously approved the first part of a plan to simplify membership dues and enhance the club's financial position.

The recommendations were made by a task force led by Jane Ciabattari, a board member who edits the Intelligence page of *Parade*. The group met over the summer to conduct a long-overdue review of the OPC's dues structure, bylaws and constitution.

To expand membership to new groups, compensate for money-losing categories of membership and in general to rationalize the system, the board agreed to the following steps:

—Junior members will be able to join the club for an annual fee of \$100. To avoid any abuses, they will be able to maintain that status for only two years before deciding whether to join under another full-fledged category.

—Retirees who can demonstrate that they have genuinely retired from all income-producing activity also will be able to continue their membership for only \$100.

—Non-resident and overseas members also will now pay \$100 a year. Some had paid \$70 a year, others \$75. In both cases, their dues failed to cover even the costs of printing and mailing

the *Bulletin*, *Dateline* and other written communications. In effect, the club was losing money on each of these memberships.

—To help defray the costs of bringing in Junior members and sustaining retirees, the board raised Affiliate dues from \$450 a year to \$500.

—Dues for Active residents in the New York area remain at \$300.

The net result is a much simpler three-tiered system of dues—\$100, \$300, and \$500—depending on a member's status and location.

The new dues will be reflected in the annual billings going out in September. Members should look for sheets asking how they would like to be listed in a new OPC directory. After a gap of many years, club Manager Sonya Fry will be printing and distributing the new publication to reflect the changes in membership categories.

The Ciabattari task force also made recommendations on how to modernize the club's constitution, which will require approval of two-thirds of the membership. Stay tuned for details. Following that, the board will be able to approve modern streamlined bylaws that will make the club's management simpler and more efficient. Thank you, Jane!

The Overseas Press Club of America
320 East 42nd Street, Mezzanine
New York, NY 10017 USA

**NEW MEMBERS
RECEPTION
THURSDAY, SEPT. 21**
7:00–9:00 pm
The Tudor

**U.S.-JAPAN PANEL
TUESDAY, OCT. 3**
Begins at Noon
McGraw-Hill Building